

WINTER/SPRING 2008

CENTER FOR FAMILY MINISTRY

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



Center For Family Ministry

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BISHOP SARTAIN RELEASES MARRIAGE BOOKLET

"FOR ALL ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES"

Bishop Sartain has released a booklet entitled, **Everything I Have is Yours: Understanding God's Plan for Marriage and the Gift of Life**. Every priest and deacon received a copy from the Bishop, and a bulk shipment has been sent to every parish. Additional copies for parish use are available free of charge from the Center for Family Ministry.

In his opening comments Bishop Sartain says, "I have prepared this booklet as a gesture of love and support for the engaged and married couples of the Diocese of Joliet. It is a reflection on marriage and the gift of life...I hope that couples will read this booklet together, taking time to reflect and pray together as you do. I hope you will find in these pages nourishment for your love, wise guidance from God, and encouragement in discipleship."

The booklet is an extended reflection on how the Church's teachings on human sexuality and parenthood flow out of a deep understanding of the spirituality of marriage. It includes reflection questions and a prayer at the end of each of eight short chapters. It is the Bishop's desire that every couple getting married in the Diocese of Joliet receive this booklet.

APRIL 5 – CONFERENCE FOR THE DIVORCED AND WIDOWED

***Finding the Love That Lasts – Featuring Rose Sweet
St. Charles Pastoral Center, Romeoville, IL***

Like the "fire tornadoes" in southern California, the loss of a spouse can send one spinning into the whirlwind emotions of grief and anxiety. Many of us, in the devastating aftermath of such a loss, feel insecure and may seek solace and satisfaction in things that can never really satisfy: food, sleep, work, busyness, travel, shopping, drinking, pursuing new relationships or hiding from them altogether. We start and continue to look for love in all the wrong places. A successful search for love requires that we move toward the true Source of love. Movement, even of the heart, starts with where we set our gaze.



Finding The Love That Lasts is a day designed to help those experiencing the loss of a spouse and those who minister to them. Rose Sweet, a Catholic author, speaker, and popular guest on national television and radio, will present on the topics of healing, love and real romance. This event is both inspiring and down to earth. Rose will share from her heart, so that God can continue to heal yours.

Rose has authored four books that have helped thousands of single, divorced and widowed Catholics. She is an annulment advocate for the Diocese of San Bernardino, CA, the Singles Director in her parish and runs the "Divorce Rx" program for the Diocese of San Bernardino.

The day starts with a 9:00 a.m. check-in and concludes with 4:00 p.m. liturgy celebrated by Bishop Sartain that satisfies the Sunday obligation. The \$35 fee includes lunch refreshments and all conference materials. Additional resources and materials for the widowed and for the divorced will be available at the conference as well. Please register by calling the Center at **815-838-5334** or by using the enclosed registration form. For additional information ask for Desirée Marciani.

LONG TIME DIRECTOR OF JOLIET DIOCESAN LIFE OFFICE TO RETIRE

will be honored on January 13

Fran Fortier, Director of the Diocese of Joliet Life Office for more than 25 years, will be retiring effective January 1, 2008. Bishop J. Peter Sartain will thank Fran at a Mass for the Celebration of Life on Sunday, January 13, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Raymond. All of Fran's family, friends, and co-workers, as well as other interested parties, are welcome and encouraged to attend the celebration. Bishop Sartain stated: "It's impossible to find the words to thank Fran for her leadership and dedication to the Pro-Life Movement in the Diocese of Joliet. She worked under the direction of three Diocesan Bishops. Fran was truly a leader in the Pro-Life Movement during the last three decades. She created an effective Pro-Life network which has served the parishes and people of the Diocese of Joliet admirably. Fran is respected by her fellow Pro-Life Directors throughout the country."

Bishop Sartain has announced that Father Thomas Milota will serve as the new Director of the Life Office. Father Milota is the pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Naperville. Father Milota and the Life Office will now directly report to Bishop Sartain. Bishop Sartain looks forward to working with Father Milota and continuing the work of the Life Office.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

Catholic Engaged Encounter is designed to help couples prepare for marriage. It is an intensive weekend of work during which each couple is offered the time and opportunity to question, examine, and deepen their relationship with each other and with God. Couples are challenged to explore their relationship in a much deeper, more honest way than they have been before.

Topics covered include self-awareness, human sexuality, communications, decision making, Natural Family Planning, vocation, sacrament, unity and more. Personal reflection and communication are the main focus. Engaged Encounter is approved by the Diocese of Joliet as a marriage preparation program.

Weekends are scheduled on the following dates in 2008:

Jan. 18-20	Feb. 8-10	March 7-9
April 11-13	May 16-18	June 6-8
Sept. 12-14	Oct. 10-12	Nov. 7-9
	Dec. 5-7	

Couples who book ahead should have no problems with registration. However, since the weekends do fill up, interested couples should contact Engaged Encounter as soon as possible.

For reservations or further information call **630-375-7072**, or check the web at www.engagedencounter.org

SPANISH ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

The next Spanish Engaged Encounter will be **April 19-20, 2008**, and will be held at the Saint Charles Pastoral Center. Couples attend on Saturday, beginning at 7:45 a.m., return to their homes Saturday night, and then come back to the Center for the Sunday session, which ends about 4:30 p.m.

Additional sessions will be held **July 26-27**, and **November 15-16, 2008**.

All sessions are in Spanish, and the cost is \$100.00. For reservations, or for more information, call the Hispanic Ministry Office at **815-834-4037**. These weekends are co-sponsored by the Center for Family Ministry and the Hispanic Ministry Office.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

...is designed to help married couples communicate more intimately with one another in order to deepen and enrich their relationship. The weekend is free from the everyday routines, distractions, and tensions. An atmosphere is created where the couple can concentrate exclusively on each other in a private, confidential environment.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will allow you the opportunity to

- Take a new look at your marriage, priorities and lifestyle
- Learn simple, effective communication techniques
- Enhance the love that you share
- Rediscover your hopes and dreams

For more information or to register, please call **630-577-0778** or on the web at www.wwme.org The schedule for 2008 is

February 22-24	April 11-13	June 6-8
September 19-21	November 14-16	December 5-7



REMARRIAGE SEMINAR

The **Remarriage Seminar** is specifically designed for couples in, or entering, a marriage where one or both have had a previous marriage. This seminar is a unique opportunity for insight, reflection, and sharing. Sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Rockford through the Family Life Office, it is open to all, including those planning an interfaith marriage or a Christian marriage in another church. Presentations include couple and/or group interaction. Topics covered with the help of the team of remarried couples include communication, conflict resolution, blending families, and expectations. The seminar will be held at the Bishop Lane Retreat Center, in Rockford, Illinois on February 1-2 and April 4-5, 2008.

To obtain a brochure with more information or to register, please call the Family Life Office, Diocese of Rockford, at **815-965-5011**.

FOCCUS Training

The FOCCUS Pre-Marital Inventory is part of the marriage preparation process for all engaged couples in the Diocese of Joliet. Priests, deacons, and other staff members, as well as parish-approved and trained lay couples, may use FOCCUS with engaged couples.

Two opportunities to be trained in FOCCUS are currently scheduled. The first opportunity is a two evening training; participants must attend both sessions. The two evenings are **Thursday, January 10** and **Thursday, January 24** from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The sessions will be held at St. Patrick Parish in Yorkville. The only cost is for the Facilitator's Manual (a couple shares one manual), which is \$45.00.

The second opportunity is a one day training event on Saturday, **March 8** at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. The day will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Because a lunch and refreshments are involved, the attending fee is \$10.00 per person, plus the \$45 for the facilitator manual.

Pre-registration is required for either training event. To register, please call the center at **815-838-5334**.

FOR BETTER AND FOR EVER

Sponsor Couple Training on January 6

All who are interested in the third edition of the For Better and For Ever marriage preparation program are invited to St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville on Sunday, January 6, beginning at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Jim Healy will first offer a short overview on marriage preparation. After a light meal, an experienced sponsor couple will introduce this popular program. The evening will be hosted by Deacon Terry and Maureen Taylor. Please contact Dr. Jim Healy at **815-838-5334** if you are interested in attending.

EXPERT IN SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY TO SPEAK AT REGIONAL FAMILY MINISTRY CONFERENCE

Dr. Richard Johnson is the director of the Institute for Maturing Adult Faith Formation and Spiritual Gerontology of St. Louis, Missouri. On Wednesday, April 16, he will be offering morning and afternoon sessions at the Bishop Lane Retreat Center in Rockford, Illinois. The morning will focus on the spirituality of aging. As Dr. Johnson says, "As we mature, our spiritual pace quickens." The afternoon will focus on the practicalities of serving and listening to our "elders," in an effort to take senior adult ministry beyond, in Dr. Johnson's words, "brownies, bingo, and bus trips."

These presentations are part of the spring regional Family Ministry gathering. Those who wish to attend Dr. Johnson's sessions are asked to contact the Center for Family Ministry by April 1. The \$30 cost includes lunch. Overnight accommodation at the retreat center is also available.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Each year, Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors World Marriage Day on the second Sunday in February. This year's celebration takes place on **February 10**.

This event honors husband and wife as head of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in daily, married life. Parishes are encouraged to join in this celebration and to proclaim the goodness of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Information and liturgy suggestions can be obtained at the World Marriage Day website www.wmd.wwme.org or by calling Luis & Lisa Tamez at **815-577-2821**.

A special World Marriage Day dinner dance will be held on **Saturday, February 9**, at Resurrection Parish, Wayne. Please call Tom and Alice Spanos, **815-578-0026** to make a reservation.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

August 10, 2008

The Thirtieth Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, August 10, 2008, and will begin at **2:00 p.m. (earlier than in previous years)**. The celebrant will be Bishop J. Peter Sartain. Many couples celebrating their 50th anniversary look forward to this special Mass. More specific information will be forthcoming. Until then, please mark your calendars!

RAINBOWS® TRAINING

Divorce, death, and other life-altering crises are devastating experiences and often put family members at risk for a multitude of short and long-term negative effects. However, research findings also indicate that with proper intervention, families adjust to the loss and recover well. The RAINBOWS® program continues to offer healing to families experiencing these losses.



RAINBOWS® is a program which provides support for children and adolescents who are grieving a loss from a life altering crisis such as death or divorce. RAINBOWS® enables those grieving to share their feelings in an accepting, supportive, confidential small group environment facilitated by trained, caring and compassionate adults. Program sites may send their volunteers to the following training sessions at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. **Pre-registration is required.** The cost for new coordinator training is \$35.00. New facilitator training is \$55.00, and includes lunch. Please call **815-838-5334** to register.

NEW COORDINATOR TRAINING:

Saturday, January 12, 2008- 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

NEW FACILITATOR TRAINING:

Saturday, January 19, 2008- 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

If your parish or school does not have a RAINBOWS® program, or any other means of support for children and families undergoing this painful transition, please encourage your pastor or principal to consider RAINBOWS®! **For parishes within the Diocese of Joliet, RAINBOWS is available at cost and scholarships are available.** Call Desirée Marciani for site start-up information.

Please note the Fall 08 training dates: New Coordinator Training - Saturday, September 27, 2008; New Facilitator Training - Saturday October 4, 2008.

SUPPORT FOR ANNULMENT PETITIONERS

Working on annulment papers alone without support can be emotionally painful, overwhelming, and frustrating. Papers often get shoved into a desk drawer and more often than not are never worked on again. In an effort to help petitioners complete the process, the Center for Family Ministry, in collaboration with the Joliet Diocesan Tribunal, is once again offering a Day of Support for Annulment Petitioners on **Saturday, February 9, 2008** from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the St. Charles Pastoral Center.

This workshop is designed for divorced persons who have petitioned the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal to begin the annulment process, have submitted basic data for introduction of their case, but have not yet completed the Marriage Summary Questionnaire. Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome to attend, whether remarried or not.

The day will include time of prayer, time for questions and input regarding annulments and the relational issues dealt with in the questionnaire. Participants will begin or continue filling out the questionnaire within a supportive environment. A team of pastoral ministers will be available for private consultation.

Continental breakfast, lunch, and materials are included in the \$25.00 fee. To register, please call **815-838-5334**.

JOYFUL AGAIN!

JOYFUL AGAIN! is a two-day program for widows and widowers who want to resolve the grief they feel inside and begin to live again after the death of their spouse. The weekend employs a series of video presentations, followed by facilitated small group discussion and private reflection time. Through this process, individuals gain new insights and receive encouragement and support. Trained facilitators, who have been widowed themselves help with the weekend and the discussions.

The next weekend at the St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville will be on March 8-9. The \$75.00 cost includes all meals and materials. Persons attending may stay overnight at the pastoral center for an additional fee of \$30, or may go home and return again for the second day.

To register, please contact Charlotte Hrubes at **708-354-7211**.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

This retreat is for reconciliation and healing for post-abortive men and women, sponsored by the Joliet Diocesan Life Office. It is scheduled for **February 22-24, 2008** at St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville. Confidentiality and privacy will be strictly observed. To learn more about a **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat** or to register, contact Kay Corcoran **815-838-7171**. For more information and a list of retreats in other locations, see: www.rachelsvineyard.org or call the toll free national hotline **1-877-HOPE-4ME**.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

The Joliet Diocesan Natural Family Planning Program teaches the **Billings Ovulation Method (BOMA) of NFP**. These classes are offered in the following locations for a fee of \$35 per couple.

1. At **St. Charles Pastoral Center** classes are held on the first **Tuesday of the month**, from 7 to 9 p.m. Parishes may also arrange for classes on site. Contact **Karen Buchert, Diocesan Coordinator of Natural Family Planning**, at kasbuchert@comcast.net or by phone **630-551-1712** to register, for more information about this class, or about natural family planning in the diocese.

2. At **Provena St. Mary Hospital in Kankakee** classes are held on the **fourth Thursday of each month** from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Classes are also offered in Spanish by appointment. Contact diocesan instructor, **Lupita Sorich** to register or for more information at **815-932-9275**.

Independent NFP providers also offering instruction within the Joliet Diocese

CREIGHTON FERTILITYCARE
www.fertilitycare.org

Couple to Couple League (CCL)
<http://ccli.or>

NFPLI, Inc
888-485-6635

RETRouvaille WEEKEND FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES

Without attention and care, marriages wither. Couples slowly drift apart or are torn apart by terrible words and actions. **Retrouvaille** is helping couples put the pieces back together and rebuild loving relationships. **Retrouvaille**, pronounced "re tro **vi**", is a French word meaning "rediscovery."

Retrouvaille begins with a weekend experience, led by trained married couples and a priest. Through presentations, private reflection, and couple communication, couples who are seriously troubled and who may be contemplating divorce are invited to reflect on their marriage and what they need to do to save it. For more information, or to register, please call the number listed below, or check the web at www.retrouvaille.org.

The next weekend in the Diocese of Joliet is scheduled for **April 4-6, 2008** at the St. Charles Pastoral Center, in Romeoville. For more information, or to register for this date, please call **708-802-1830**. A complete list of scheduled weekends for 2008 follows.

April 4-6	October 17-19	Romeoville
May 4-6	Nov 30 - Dec 2	Rockford
	February 8-10	Chicago

SPRINGTIME FOR THE SOUL

Sr. Paula Hagen, the national director of Ministry of Mothers Sharing, is the guest presenter for this retreat on the **evening of March 7 and the morning of March 8** at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Aurora. The evening session starts at 6 p.m. and ends at 9:30 p.m.; the morning session starts at 8:30 and ends at noon. Each session starts with a light meal. Participants will share in a Lenten journey- sharing in the redemptive value of Christ's death and resurrection in daily life. The cost for both days is \$35 if registered by February 18; \$40 after February 18. If you can only attend one day, the cost is \$20 per day. If you have any questions or to register, please call **630-851-3444**, extension 221.

Changes in FOCCUS Scoring Options

FOCCUS Incorporated has announced that it is no longer selling the software package that allows FOCCUS to be computer-scored at the parish or diocesan level. In addition, after June 30 of this year, it will no longer offer technological support for any of the software packages already sold. Parishes who have not previously purchased the software have three options for scoring FOCCUS: 1) purchase and use the hand-scoring materials, 2) send the answer sheets to Omaha to be computer scored, or 3) have couples take the inventory, and have it scored, online. The last two options have a per-couple fee attached to them. It is anticipated that online administration and scoring of FOCCUS will be the primary option at some point in the future. Those with questions are invited to call Dr. Jim Healy for more information.

ANNULMENT FIELD ADVOCATE TRAINING

Saturday, February 16

Quite often, a person investigating the possibility of an annulment has a difficult time beginning the process. Those who help the person at a parish normally become the field advocate for that person's annulment investigation. This training, co-sponsored by the Center for Family Ministry and the Joliet Diocesan Tribunal, will provide potential "field advocates" and existing field advocates with pertinent information about the annulment process. It will also offer practical ways for the field advocate to assist, coach, and be spiritually supportive with the annulment petitioners.

Those who come to this training are selected and sent by their parish staff and, in turn, will serve their own parish in this ministry. The training takes place at St. Charles Pastoral Center in Romeoville, from 8:30 a.m. (check-in begins at 8:00) to 3:00 p.m. and will be conducted by Father Joseph Tapella, and Desirée Marciani. The \$15 fee covers continental breakfast, lunch and materials.

Although the training is not mandatory, it will be very helpful, both for existing field advocates, and those who want to begin to reach out to annulment petitioners. For registration information, concerns, or questions, call Desirée Marciani at **815-838-5334**.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE

The parishes of the Naperville/Lisle/Woodridge area have collaborated to host a one-day Marriage Enrichment Conference. Dr. Brent Atkinson, a nationally known counselor, speaker, and author, will speak to married couples about "Breaking the Cana Code: Secrets of a Successful Marriage." This highly interactive presentation will contain many break-out opportunities for the couples attending.

The conference will take place on **Saturday, April 26, 2008** from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Krasa Center of Benedictine University. Registration will take place from 12 - 12:45, an opening prayer will be given by Bishop Kaffer at 12:45 and the program will begin at 1:00. The cost is \$25 per couple through April 12, 2008 and \$30 per couple after that date. To register, please call Cathy or Phil Gorski at **630-971-2406** or email catski60@sbcglobal.net for more information.

FAMILY PLACE MATS RETURN!

The Family Life offices of the dioceses of Illinois are again offering family place mats for sale. Brightly colored, oversized, and laminated, these place mats have prayers and conversation starters on the front side, and a complete guide to the Rosary and other Marian devotions on the back side.

The original 1999 version, with a millennial theme, sold over 70,000 copies.

The place mats are normally \$2.50 each. However, if more than 100 place mats are ordered at one time (a popular option for Catholic schools, religious education programs, and parishes as a whole), the price drops to \$1.50 each. Please call the Center for Family Ministry with your order.

PRESENTATIONS ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY BY DR. JIM HEALY

The following presentations on marriage and family by Dr. Jim Healy are open to all interested couples and individuals.

January 16 **Conflict Resolution and the Art of Forgiveness**
St. Ann Parish in Oswego 7:30 p.m.
Contact person - Gail Fonseca at 630-554-8848

February 1 **How to Be Married and Stay Engaged**
Sacred Heart Parish in Lombard 7:00 p.m.
Contact person - Andrea Heinz 630-889-8866

February 19 **Blessing and Being Blessed by our Children**
St. Mary Parish in Downer's Grove 7:00 p.m.
Contact person - Ann Forde Murray 630-217-0115

April 12 **The Art of Forgiveness and Skills for Staying in Love**
Ss. Peter & Paul in Naperville 6:15 p.m.
Contact person - Christine Kancewick 630-718-2154
Please call to pre-register and to inquire about program fee.

If you wish to attend one of these presentations, please call the contact person at least three days before the event.

Diocese of Joliet

The Center for Family Ministry

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Upcoming Events – Register Below

JANUARY

- 6 For Better and Forever, Naperville
- 8 Natural Family Planning, Session I
- 10 FOCCUS Training, Yorkville
- 12 RAINBOWS Coordinator Training
- 16 Conflict Resolution, Oswego
- 18-20 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 19 RAINBOWS Facilitator Training
- 24 FOCCUS Training, Yorkville

FEBRUARY

- 1 How to Married and Stay Engaged, Lombard
- 1-2 Remarriage Seminar, Rockford
- 5 Natural Family Planning, Session II
- 8-10 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 9 Support for Annulment Petitioners
- 9 World Marriage Day Dinner, Wayne
- 16 Annulment Field Advocate Training
- 19 Blessing and Being Blessed, Downer's Grove
- 22-24 Rachel's Vineyard
- 22-24 Worldwide Marriage Encounter

MARCH

- 4 Natural Family Planning, Session I
- 7-9 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 8 FOCCUS Training
- 8-9 Joyful Again! Retreat

APRIL

- 1 Natural Family Planning, Session II
- 4-5 Remarriage Seminar, Rockford
- 4-6 Retrouvaille Weekend
- 5 Annual Conference for Divorce and Widowed
- 11-13 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 11-13 Worldwide Marriage Encounter
- 12 Art of Forgiveness, Naperville
- 16 Spirituality of Aging, Rockford
- 19-20 Spanish Engaged Encounter
- 26 Marriage Enrichment Conference, Lisle

MAY

- 6 Natural Family Planning, Session I
- 16-18 Catholic Engaged Encounter

JUNE

- 3 Natural Family Planning, Session II
- 6-8 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 6-8 Worldwide Marriage Encounter

JULY

AUGUST

- 10 Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Center For Family Ministry

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REGISTRATION FORM

We have included this generic registration form for your convenience. Please duplicate it if you wish to register for one of our programs.

NAME:

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PARISH

DAYTIME PHONE

TITLE OF WORKSHOP

DATE OF WORKSHOP

FEE ENCLOSED

E-MAIL ADDRESS